Commemorative postage stamp on Saint Annamacharya

2232. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received for release of Commemorative stamp on Saint Annamacharya on his 500th Vardhanthi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by his Ministry thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A request for release of a commemorative stamp on Saint Annamachary's 500th Vardhanthi to be celebrated on 29th March 2003 at Hyderabad was received from the Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The proposal was considered but could not be approved keeping in view existing guidelines for issue of such stamps. However, issue of a special cover with special cancellation which are also of philatelic value has been proposed to mark the occasion.

Infomation and Communication Network with PSTN

2233. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing guidelines for closed upper groups interconnect do not permit information and communication network with PSTN network; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not allowing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes Sir.